



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE



INJURY / ROLL OVER AUTO CRASH IN WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP

Whitewater Township, May 21, 2016 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports a serious injury / roll over automobile crash on northbound Interstate Route 275 at the 22.8 mile marker in Whitewater Township.

At approximately 10:36 am, a 2008 GMC Sierra was being driven in the left lane of IR 275 by Thomas Tritz (M/57/Bowling Green KY). The right lane was occupied by a 2000 Freightliner Semi-Tractor Trailer owned by Fed Ex and driven by Keith Graham (M/34/ Ft. Wright, KY). Mr. Graham was attempted to switch lanes from right to the left, but did not see Mr. Tritz's pick up truck next to his cab. As Mr. Graham moved over to his left, he pinched the pick up truck between the guardrail and his Semi. The left side of the semi struck the right side of Mr. Tritz's pickup. After the contact was made, Mr. Graham swerved to the right to get away from the pick up truck. Mr. Tritz was unable to control his vehicle and began to rotate across the highway. The truck then slid off the right side of the roadway. As it slid across the wet grass, the tires dug into the mud causing it to roll over twice. During the roll over event, the juvenile passenger in the right rear was ejected from the vehicle.

All the passengers in the pick up truck were taken to either University Hospital or Children's Hospital by Whitewater and Greendale IN. life squads. The 14 year old that was ejected was listed in critical but stable condition. She was not wearing her seatbelt at the time of the crash. The other occupants of the pick up were all using their seatbelts at the time of the crash. The driver of the semi tractor trailer was also using his safety belt when the crash occurred. Neither drugs or alcohol are believed to have played any role in the crash.

The crash remains under investigation by the Hamilton County Sheriff's traffic safety unit.